Cedar Breaks Gilia Ipomopsis tridactyla





In the Utah Flora, this species is known by the scientific name, *Gilia tridactyla*. One must always remember that species are named by humans and reflect opinions on evolutionary relatedness. As more information accumulates, different opinions may arise as to the relatedness of species and names are changed accordingly.

Like a number of species found on the rims at Cedar Breaks, this species is endemic and found nowhere else in the world except Piute County, Utah.

Cedar Breaks Gilia is a member of the Phlox Family or Polemoniaceae and often grows along the rims with another family member, Cushion Phlox. Many people also know its relative, Scarlet Gilia, with bright red flowers which can be seen along the roadsides at lower elevations on the drive up to Cedar Breaks. Many members of this family are grown as ornamental plants in gardens because of their showy flowers, many of which are bright pink or red.